



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Albany, NY

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

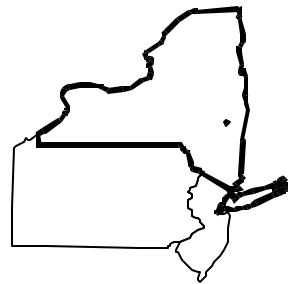
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Albany for a Brownfields Pilot. Albany (population 101,082) is the state capital and is located in upstate New York along the Hudson River. Albany has a limited supply of uncontaminated, developable land and 300 to 500 brownfields, and is an ideal location for commercial and industrial businesses, with interstate, rail, river, and port access nearby.

The Pilot targets some of the city's old industrial neighborhoods such as North Albany, Arbor Hill, West Hill, Sheridan Hollow and the South End, including the Port of Albany, where brownfields contribute to the economic blight that plagues the area: 9 percent of the residents are unemployed, and 33 percent live in poverty. These neighborhoods also comprise a state Economic Development Zone (EDZ) and a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Enterprise Community (EC). The target area covers more than 4.8 square miles along the Hudson River, which has been designated as an American Heritage River.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Albany, New York

Date of Announcement:
June 1999

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets brownfields in the communities of North Albany, Arbor Hill, West Hill, Sheridan Hollow and the South End, including the Port of Albany, that comprise the city's most economically distressed areas.

Contacts:

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(518) 434-9846

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 2
(212) 637-4314

Visit the EPA Region 2 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/r02earth/superfnd/brownfld/bfmainpg.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot's objective is to spur economic development and job creation within the city's EC and EDZ areas by establishing a sustainable, community-based brownfields redevelopment program that creates a comprehensive inventory of contaminated sites and performs environmental assessments. The city anticipates that these activities will facilitate private sector cleanup and redevelopment of Pilot-targeted and other brownfields. Additionally, Pilot activities will help to mitigate potential health and environmental threats as sites are assessed and cleaned up.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Compiling a geographic information system (GIS) database of inventoried brownfields within the EC and EDZ communities;
- Performing Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments of priority brownfields within the target area; and
- Conducting community outreach to help guide Pilot activities and educate local residents about site assessments, cleanup, and redevelopment.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.